

2014 Clean Water Indiana Grant



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The CWI Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the CWI Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2014, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 12 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$724,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

LEAD DISTRICT: VERMILLION
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: BOONE, FOUNTAIN,
MONTGOMERY, PARKE, WARREN
PROJECT NAME: WEST/CENTRAL IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2014-12/31/2016



Purpose: Reduce soil quality degradation

The new project builds on the success of the previous project to continue to reduce soil quality degradation and improve water quality within the four HUC 8 watersheds that the original project focused on.

Reducing soil quality degradation and improving water quality will be addressed with a combination of increasing conservation tillage and the use of cover crops and encouraging participation in programs that improve water quality such as the Healthy Rivers Initiative (HRI), the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and the Wetlands Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP). The program will also encourage local producers to participate in Conservation Cropping System Initiative (CCSI) programs. The project's goal is to reduce the nutrient and sediment losses from productive lands.

The project will focus on giving direct professional assistance to targeted land users. This specialist will meet with individuals and provide on-site assistance to plan and implement best management practices.



PARTNERS FOR THE PROJECT INCLUDE:
ARBORTERRA, OLD NATIONAL BANK,
FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FREY DRAINAGE
& EXCAVATING, BECKS SEEDS, ADAMS
FARMS, BYRON SEEDS, LLC, PARKE
COUNTY REMC AND CCSI.

The unified plan across six counties will fully support producers who farm in multiple counties.

